



# Environmental Charter Schools

## Board of Directors' Meeting

In-Person at ECS Home Office

### Date and Time

Monday December 1, 2025 at 5:00 PM PST

### Location

**In-person location:** ECS Home Office - 2625 Manhattan Beach Blvd #100, Redondo Beach, CA 90278

**Two-way teleconference locations:** 3011 Elm Ave, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266 | 1100 Shasta Avenue, San Jose, CA 95126 | 13885 Dogleg Lane, Broomfield, CO 80023

ECS Board Members	Term	and	End Date
Dr. Betsy Hamilton, President.....	3 years		June 30, 2028
Dr. Denise Berger, .....	3 years		June 30, 2026
Mr. Anthony Jowid.....	3 years		June 30, 2028
Ms. Zena Fong.....	3 years		June 30, 2026
Dr. Madhu Chatwani.....	3 years		June 30, 2026
Mr. Kennedy Hilario.....	3 years		June 30, 2026
Mr. Herb Sims.....	3 years		June 30, 2028
Mr. Mason Williams.....	3 years		June 30, 2028
Mr. Andrew Ellenbogen.....	3 years		June 30, 2026
Mr. Remco Waller.....	3 years		June 30, 2028
Lawndale Elementary School District Representative, Rotating Position			

### ECS Staff

Ms. Danielle Kelsick, Superintendent

Ms. Lucia Bañuelos, Deputy Superintendent of Schools

Ms. Tracy Bondi, Director of Finance  
Mr. Jeremiah David, Director of Compliance & Operations  
Ms. Sarah Jamieson, Director of Human Resources  
Ms. Jen Fenton, Director of Strategic Initiatives  
Dr. Shalene Wright, Director of SpEd & English Language Development  
Mr. Cesar Delgado, Director of Student Wellness  
Dr. Geneva Matthews, Principal at ECMS-Inglewood  
Mr. Dave Trejo, Principal at ECMS-Gardena  
Dr. Beth Bernstein-Yamashiro, Principal at ECHS-Gardena  
Ms. Jennifer Larsen, Principal at ECHS-Lawndale

**Mission:**

Reimagine public education in low-income communities of color to prepare conscious, critical thinkers who are equipped to graduate from college and create a more equitable and sustainable world.

**Values:**

JUSTICE - We examine bias, racism, and prejudice. We deliver culturally-responsive curricula. We succeed when students' race and class cease to predict their level of achievement.

COMMUNITY - We care. We collaborate. We respect the rights and voices of our stakeholders.

CURIOSITY - We question. We explore. We innovate.

SUSTAINABILITY - We think globally and act locally. We adapt. We encourage systems thinking to create a sustainable future.

LEADERSHIP - We listen. We think critically. We advocate. We shift public discourse. We are our own superheroes.

**THE ORDER OF BUSINESS MAY BE CHANGED WITHOUT NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given that the order of consideration of matters on this agenda may be changed without prior notice.

**PUBLIC SPEAKERS AT BOARD MEETINGS**

Notice is hereby given that consistent with the requirements of the Ralph M. Brown Act, special presentations not mentioned in the agenda may be made at this meeting. However, any such presentation will be for information only. The public should be aware that the Board is unable by law to deliberate or take action on items raised during the Presentations from the Floor section.

Environmental Charter Schools recognizes that it benefits greatly from public input and perspective. Individuals are invited to address the Board on any topic or subject matter that falls within the Environmental Charter School's purview. Speakers may sign up in person immediately prior to the beginning of the Board meeting by turning in a Speaker Form (available at the check-in table in English and Spanish).

Should a member of the public wish to speak on matters not listed on the agenda, they may speak during the Presentations from the Floor section of the agenda. Speakers will be given a maximum of three (3) minutes each to address the Board (non-English speakers utilizing translators will be given a maximum of six (6) minutes each). Please note that the Board allows a maximum of 10 minutes to each subject as determined by the Board's presiding officer.

Should a member of the public wish to speak on matters listed on the agenda, they may speak during the Presentations from the Floor section of the agenda. Speakers will be given a maximum of five (5) minutes each to address the Board (non-English speakers utilizing translators will be given a maximum of ten (10) minutes each).

The public should be aware that the Board is unable by law to deliberate or take action on items raised during the Presentations from the Floor section.

**REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION WILL BE PROVIDED FOR ANY INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY**

Pursuant to the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, any individual with a disability who requires reasonable accommodation to attend or participate in this meeting of the Governing Board may request assistance by contacting ECS at (310) 214-3408, option 5.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

For more information concerning this agenda or for materials relating to this meeting, please contact ECS at (310) 214-3408, option 5. Previous board meeting minutes may be viewed on the Board On Track public portal website at <https://app2.boardontrack.com/public/3tHo3u/home>.

**Agenda**

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
<b>I. Opening Items</b>			<b>5:00 PM</b>
Opening Items			
<b>A. Record attendance and guests</b>		Zena Fong	1 m

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alberto Paredes, Lawndale Elementary School District, Director of Student Support Services (<a href="https://www.lawndalesd.net/departments/educational-services/student-support-services">https://www.lawndalesd.net/departments/educational-services/student-support-services</a>)</li> </ul>			
<b>B.</b> Call the Meeting to Order		Zena Fong	1 m
<b>C.</b> Approve the agenda	Vote	Zena Fong	1 m
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Versión en español</a></li> </ul>			
<b>D.</b> Opener	Discuss	Danielle Kelsick	5 m
<b>II. Presentations from the Floor</b>			<b>5:08 PM</b>
<b>A.</b> Presentations from the floor on non-agenda Items	FYI		10 m
<p>Should a member of the public wish to speak on matters not listed on the agenda, they may speak during the Presentations from the Floor section of the agenda. Speakers will be given a maximum of three (3) minutes each to address the Board (non-English speakers utilizing translators will be given a maximum of six (6) minutes each).</p>			
<b>B.</b> Presentations from the floor on agenda items	FYI		10 m
<p>Should a member of the public wish to speak on matters listed on the agenda, they may speak during the Presentations from the Floor section of the agenda. Speakers will be given a maximum of five (5) minutes each to address the Board (non-English speakers utilizing translators will be given a maximum of ten (10) minutes each).</p>			
<b>III. Discussion Items / Updates</b>			<b>5:28 PM</b>
<b>A.</b> Superintendent update	FYI	Danielle Kelsick	5 m
<b>B.</b> EdTec financial update	Discuss	Jair Ventura & Jean Yang	20 m
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">EdTec financial update</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ <a href="#">ECHS-L financial statements</a></li> <li>◦ <a href="#">ECMS-G financial statements</a></li> <li>◦ <a href="#">ECMS-I financial statements</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>			

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
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- [ECHS-G financial statements](#)
- [ECS Balance Sheet as of October 31, 2025](#)

<b>IV. Consent Items A-C</b>			<b>5:53 PM</b>
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A. Approve 11/10/2025 board meeting minutes	Approve Minutes	Jeremiah David	3 m
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- [11/10/2025 board meeting minutes](#)

B. Approve revised 2025-26 Board & Committee Calendar	Vote	Jeremiah David	
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- Revised [2025-26 ECS Board & Committee Calendar \(redlined\)](#)

C. Approve Board Resolution No. 2025-02 - Withdrawing from Membership in SELF Insurance	Vote	Jeremiah David	
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- [Board Resolution No. 2025-02 - Withdrawing from Membership in SELF Insurance](#)

**BACKGROUND:**

Environmental Charter Schools is currently a member of the Alliance of Schools for Cooperative Insurance Programs, a joint powers authority and primary risk sharing pool of public educational agencies. ASCIP provides coverages for (liability claims)(workers compensation) and (property losses). Schools Excess Liability Fund, another separate JPA, has for many years worked with ASCIP and provides to the District excess coverage in areas covered by ASCIP as the primary pool.

Based upon preliminary review and information obtained or generated by staff, it is recommended that Environmental Charter Schools review available options for excess reinsurance as well as continuation with the SELF programs for scope of coverage, pricing-rates and also operational issues of Environmental Charter Schools and ASCIP working with SELF for maximum excess participation on behalf of the District.

For Environmental Charter Schools to evaluate options, and if finding a superior one to be able to move to an alternative excess program effective July 1, 2026 when the

	Purpose		Presenter	Time
<p>current fiscal year of SELF ends under the Joint Powers Agreement of SELF to which Environmental Charter Schools is a signatory, Environmental Charter Schools is required to have the Board adopt a formal Resolution of Withdrawal to be effective July 1, 2026, to send written Notice of Withdrawal with a copy of the Resolution to SELF, and to do so by on or before the close of business on December 31, 2025 in order for the withdrawal to be effective July 1, 2026.</p>				

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the Governing Board formally adopt a Resolution, a draft of which is appended, serving as a Resolution of Withdrawal to then be sent by staff to SELF with written notice of the intended withdrawal by no later than December 31, 2025. It is not the intention of Environmental Charter Schools presently to commit to leaving SELF pending completion of a due diligence on excess options. But to comply with the notice provisions and to confer and confirm with SELF that this Resolution of Withdrawal may be superseded by a later Resolution to remain a current member in good standing with SELF if that is the later decision of this Board, is the recommendation.

<b>V. Action Item</b>				<b>5:56 PM</b>
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<b>A.</b>	Approve First Interim Financial Reports for ECHS-L, ECMS-I, ECMS-G, ECHS-G	Vote	Tracy Bondi	3 m
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- [ECHS-Lawndale](#)
- [ECMS-Gardena](#)
- [ECMS-Inglewood](#)
- [ECHS-Gardena](#)

<b>VI. Upcoming Dates/Announcements</b>				<b>5:59 PM</b>
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<b>A.</b>	Next ECS board meeting	FYI	Danielle Kelsick	1 m
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- Monday, January 12, 2025 @ 5pm (pending board approval)

<b>B.</b>	Next ECS committee meetings	FYI	Danielle Kelsick	1 m
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- Audit Committee - January 8, 2025 @ 1pm (pending board approval)
- Finance Committee - June 18, 2026 @ 8:30am

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
<b>C.</b> Appreciations	Discuss	All Attendees	1 m
<b>VII. Transition to Closed Session</b>			<b>6:02 PM</b>
<b>A.</b> Adjourn to closed session	Vote	Zena Fong	1 m
<b>VIII. Closed Session</b>			<b>6:03 PM</b>
<b>A.</b> CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION (Government Code § 54956.9)  Name of Case: Environmental Educators United, CTA/NEA v. Environmental Charter Schools. Case No. LA-CE-6934-E.	Discuss		10 m
<b>B.</b> CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS (Government Code §54957.6)  Agency Designated Representative: Robert Escalante  Employee Organization: Environmental Educators United	Discuss		10 m
<b>IX. Report out of Closed Session</b>			<b>6:23 PM</b>
<b>A.</b> Report out	FYI	Zena Fong	1 m
<b>X. Closing Items</b>			<b>6:24 PM</b>
<b>A.</b> Adjourn Meeting	Vote	Zena Fong	1 m